energy in the Eighth Five Year Plan period; and

(b) the manner in which afforestation plans have been coordinated with rural fuel requirements ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b) No specific recommendations regarding the rural energy requirement in Eighth Plan were made by the Advisory Board on Energy.

Estimated Commercial Losses to SEBs

808. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the estimated commercial losses of all State Electricity Board during 1991-92;

(b) how these compare with losses in 1980 and 1985;

(c) what has been the rate of return on capital invested in SEBs during the last five years; and

(d) what steps are being taken by Government to tone up the physical and financial performance of SEBs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b) Accounts for the year 1991-92 have not so far been received from the SEBs. The commercial losses after taking into account the subsidy as provided in the accounts of the SEBs during the years ending March, 1980, 1985 and 1991 are as follows:

Year ending March	Rs. in crore
1980	—93.00
1985	—257.50
1991	—1390.63

(c) The overall rate of return achieved by the SEBs on the net fixed assets at the beginning of the year (less consumers' contribution) during the last five years is as under:—

Year ending March	rate of return
1986	—2.64
1987	—0.64
1988	—1.65
1989	—1.82
1990	—2.73

(d) State Governments have been impressed upon, from time to time, including in the Conferences of Power Ministers of States, to improve the operations of the SEBs so as to achieve the statutory surplus of 3% and to take steps like equity participation, provision of subsidy to meet the losses for supply of power to the agricultural sector, timely revision of tariff, improving the performance of generating stations, reducing T&D losses etc. States have also been urged for fixation of a minimum agricultural power tariff of 50 paise/kwh. Incentive Schemes for improved performance of thermal power stations/reduction of T&D losses have been introduced. It is also proposed, in consultation with the SEBs and State Govts., to establish a National Power Tariff Board and five Regional Power Tariff Boards to recommend appropriate tariff structure for each State.

विद्युत की बचत के बारे में "ऊर्जा प्रबंध केन्द्र" का प्रतिवेदन

809. डा० जितेन्द्र कुमार जैन :
सरदार जगजीत सिंह अरोड़ा :

क्या विद्युत और गैर-पारम्परिक ऊर्जा स्रोत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार द्वारा, देश में विद्युत की बचत के संबंध में गठित "ऊर्जा प्रबंध केन्द्र" ने अपना प्रतिवेदन प्रस्तुत कर दिया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह सच है कि उक्त प्रतिवेदन में इस बात पर जोर दिया गया है कि पर्याप्त उपायों द्वारा देश के लगभग 23 प्रतिशत विद्युत की बचत की जा सकती है ;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि इस समय देश में पारेषण और वितरण के दौरान राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर लगभग 21 प्रतिशत विद्युत की हानि होती है ;

(घ) क्या यह भी सच है कि देश में बिजली की सर्वाधिक मांग वाले समय के दौरान विद्युत की कमी राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर लगभग 17.3 प्रतिशत है; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो सरकार द्वारा आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजनावधि के दौरान बिजली की बचत करने और इनकी हानि रोकने के लिए प्रतिशत की दृष्टि से क्या लक्ष्य निर्धारित किए गए हैं ?

विद्युत और गैर पारम्परिक ऊर्जा स्रोत मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री कल्पनाथ राय) :

(क) और (ख) ऊर्जा प्रबन्ध केन्द्र ने "ऊर्जा संरक्षण नीति तथा कार्यक्रम" पर एक प्रलेख तैयार किया है। जिसमें यह बताया गया है कि अर्थतंत्र के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में ऊर्जा संरक्षण शक्यता लगभग 23% है।

(ग) और (घ) देश में पारेषण एवं वितरण संबंधी हानियां लगभग 21% आंकी गई हैं जबकि 1991-92 के दौरान देश में व्यस्तता कमी लगभग 18.8% थी।

(ङ) आठवीं योजना के दौरान ऊर्जा के संरक्षण के लिए अथवा पारेषण एवं वितरण हानियों के संबंध में कोई लक्ष्य निर्धारित नहीं किए गए हैं। तथापि, विभिन्न ऊर्जा संरक्षण उपाय शुरू किए गए हैं। इसी तरह पारेषण एवं वितरण में कमी लाने के लिए विद्युत यूटिलिटीज को विभिन्न दिशा-निर्देश भी जारी किए गए हैं।

Japanes-Swedish Consortium of Marubani and ABB

810. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the report appearing in the Indian Express of the 8th April, 1992 highlighting the event the events in concluding with a Japanese Swedish consortium of Marubani and ABB in an undue haste, particularly, when the project is going to remain idle for more than a year after completion; and

(b) if so, what is the factual position in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The newsitem tended to create an impression that there had been undue haste in the award of contract, that due care was not taken in selecting Asea Brown Boveri (ABB) Gas Turbine and that the power plant may not operate for one year from the date of commissioning for want of gas. The aspects brought out in the newsitem were not based on facts and national Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has classified these issues to the media in a specific Press meet and clarification were also published in the media thereafter. The tender for the Gandhar gas based thermal Project (650 MW) was opened in January, 1991 and the award was placed in March, 1992. The urgency in the award of contract was to utilise part of the EOCF loan amount before the closing of the financial year on 31st March, 1992. Regarding gas availability, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has confirmed the availability of 1.5 MCMD of gas for the Project and it is expected that gas will be available in a phased manner to match the commissioning schedule of the Project.